Requirement Gathering Report

As students of New York University Abu Dhabi and users of the current system, we are both – the stakeholders and the users. Thus, gathering requirements was largely done by discussions within the team itself.

The process involved observation of Facebook groups and noticing how often important posts are lost as the groups are clogged with posts about sale of either items or sale of campus money. We also noticed how there exist a multitude of groups serving a singular purpose – buying and selling. This resulted in the idea being born.

We then spoke to various individuals, in the form of informal interviews, whether they would use a platform that consolidates the large variety of Facebook groups. Upon receiving positive feedback, we decided to move to the next stage of understanding the specific needs.

For this elicitation phase, we began by recounting our own experiences with selling online – delayed responses from potential buyers, buyers backing out last minute, agreeing on a price and then changing their mind – we thus decided to add the bidding system and the rating system. This would ensure that sellers got the best price and that they would beware of buyers that have a tendency to back out of deals. We also realized that one of the reasons for having multiple groups was student preference to sell to a certain section of the community, such as only females. We thus decided to have an anonymous posting option (still visible to the admin to identify spammers).

When speaking with people, we also realized how there were many student-led businesses on campus which would flourish if they received more recognition and thus we decided to include services on the platform – since it would only be a small extension from the product idea.

We then began thinking about how the process could be limited to NYU Abu Dhabi students, to ensure that the selling space would be a safe space and that students would feel comfortable in selling on the website. We then decided to use either SSO or have an admin approval process in registering on the website.

Thus, we primarily used observation and informal interviews as methods to gather requirements.